

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1-22 cancelled.

23. (Currently Added) A method for preventing retinal ganglion cell death comprising the step of administration to the ganglion optic ~~verve~~nerve of a mammal, a pharmaceutical composition which evokes a biological mechanism which does not modulate aqueous humor dynamics and intraocular pressure.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23 wherein the composition comprises a compound having non-inactivating sodium channel blocking activity is selected from the group consisting of benzothialzole riluzole, phenyl benzothiozole and lifarizine.

25. (Previously Amended) The method of treatment of claim 24 wherein the composition is an ophthalmic solution adapted for administration to the eye of a mammal in the form of intracameral injection.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of treatment of claim 23 wherein ~~the ophthalmic composition~~thea concentration of the compound having non-inactivating sodium channel blocking activity in the ophthalmic composition is in the range of approximately 0.0001 to approximately 1 percent weight by volume.